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Message Text

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10
ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /077 W
---------- 093582
P R 110830Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6103
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, MT, XF
SUBJECT: PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE
VISITS MALTA

REF: VALLETTA 1735, NOVEMBER 8, 1974 (NOTAL)

1. THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION'S REPRESENTATIVE IN ITALY, NIMR HAMMAD (SIC), ARRIVED IN MALTA APRIL 9 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOM. PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WAS REPORTED BY MALTESE PRESS TO BE THE OPENING OF A PLO OFFICE IN MALTA.

2. HAMMAD MET WITH PRIME MINISTER MINTOFF ON APRIL 9, AND MEETING WAS PROMINENTLY FEATURED IN PRESS, PARTICULARLY PRO-LABOR NEWSPAPERS. GENERAL WORKERS UNION "MALTA NEWS" REPORTED THAT MINTOFF'S GOVERNMENT HAD RECOGNIZED PLO AS THE "SOLE AND LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE SHORTLY AFTER (MINTOFF) WAS ELECTED TO POWER IN
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1971", AND THAT GOM "HAS SUPPORTED THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE

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IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS".

3. THERE HAS, AS YET, BEEN NO OFFICIAL GOM ANNOUNCEMENT OF AGREEMENT PERMITTING PLO OFFICE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN MALTA.

4. COMMENT: OFFICIAL RECEPTION OF HAMMAD AND FAVORABLE PUBLICITY REGARDING HIS VISIT IN LABOR PRESS IS IN KEEPING WITH MINOTFF'S PRO-ARAB FOREIGN POLICY AND IS NORMAL FOR VISITS TO MALTA BY REPRESENTATIVES OF REVOLUTIONARY CAUSES SUPPORTED BY MINTOFF. GOM MINISTRY OF COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS UNABLE TO CONFIRM DATE OF WHICH GOM "RECOGNIZED" PLO, AND EMBASSY IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER THIS ACTUALLY HAS BEEN DONE OFFICIALLY. EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN MALTA, RATHER THAN LIBYAN, ASSISTED IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR HAMMAD'S VISIT.

5. ADDITIONAL COMMENT FOLLOWS SEPTEL. SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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TAGS: PFOR, PROP, MT, XF, PLO, (HAMMAD, NIMR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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